

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Torrance, California,
May 12, 1924.

An adjourned, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, May 12, 1924, and was called to order at 7:30 P. M. by President Smith. The following Trustees were present: Brooks, Deininger, Fitzhugh, Torrence and Smith. Absent: None.

"As this is an adjourned meeting from last week, we will dispense with the reading of the minutes and take up special business," said President Smith.

The Clerk read a communication from the Woman's Club of Torrance, the same requesting action toward the erection of a "Torrance" sign of suitable dimensions at the intersection of East Road and Harbor Boulevard.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the Woman's Club be advised that the erection of such a sign was under way, and that their letter be referred to the Chamber of Commerce. There was no second to the motion, but the President instructed the Clerk to answer the letter telling the Club their desires would be realized.

Mrs. Moon appeared before the Board requesting permission to complete a garage she had already started on Lot 12, Block 40. It appeared that this building had been started before applying for the regular permit, and was located 5 feet from the property line on a side street. As the Ordinance calls for a 10 foot setback, under these circumstances, it had been ordered that the building might not be completed. It was considered a dangerous precedent to allow the completion of the garage and Trustee Fitzhugh moved that Mrs. Moon's request be denied. Trustee Torrence seconded the motion which was duly carried.

Trustee Deininger stated that a certain store room in town had been investigated as to its convenience and comfort for the different City offices--relieving the present cramped quarters--and displayed a plan of the new room.

The above mentioned Trustee then moved that a lease be secured on the store room at 1215 El Prado for one year at the monthly rental of \$75.00; providing that the City be privileged to renew said lease from year to year for at least three years after the termination of the first year's lease; and that such lease be dated June 2, 1924; also that the necessary advertising be complied with looking toward said removal. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Deininger, Fitzhugh,
Torrence and Smith.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

The verbal resignation of J. J. Jessup as City Engineer and Building Inspector was accepted to take effect May 16, 1924.

Trustee Deininger moved that J. J. Jessup be retained as City Engineer, Consulting Engineer and Advisor on a percentage basis: effective May 16, 1924.

For special improvements, 6% of contract price;

For completion of Western Avenue, 4% of contract price.

Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Deininger, Fitzhugh,
Torrence and Smith.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Trustee Deininger moved that O. J. Hobson be, and he is hereby, appointed as Building Inspector and Assistant Engineer of the City of Torrance at a salary of \$225.00 per month, effective May 16, 1924. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Deininger, Fitzhugh,
Torrence and Smith.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Trustee Deininger moved that Wm. Gascoigne be, and he is hereby, appointed Superintendent of Streets of the City of Torrance at a salary of \$200.00 per month, effective May 16, 1924. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Deininger, Fitzhugh,
Torrence and Smith.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

The following RESOLUTION NO. 174 was dictated:

RESOLVED, That Mr. Jessup be, and he is hereby, authorized to make an assessment map of the Western Avenue district improvement.

Trustee Deininger moved that Resolution No. 174 be adopted as dictated, and a copy of the same filed in the office of the City Clerk. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Deininger, Fitzhugh,
Torrence and Smith.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Trustee Fitzhugh asked for information as to the progress of Western Avenue north of the City limits and was answered by Mr. Jessup that he thought it was coming along alright according to Col. Griffith as the City of Los Angeles has appropriated the necessary money, and they are now getting money that they can expend without proceedings.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that the Chairman of the Sewer committee and the Engineer be authorized to finish whatever improvements are necessary in the way of furniture and fixtures for the new location of the City offices, same to be habitable by the first of June. Trustee Deininger seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Deininger, Fitzhugh,
Torrence and Smith.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Mr. Kingsley of the Torrance Herald requested that they be allowed to rope off a section of Marcelina Avenue for the purpose of holding a street dance from 7:00 to 12:00 P.M. May 31st, to celebrate the opening of their new place of business.

On motion by Trustee Fitzhugh, seconded by Trustee Torrence, and a majority vote, above sought permission was granted.

Messrs. Crowell & Lundy, through Clerk Bartlett, requested permission to hold another dance May 17th at a fee of \$5.00, after which they would either quit or take out a permit for the year.

Trustee Brooks moved that the permit be granted. Trustee Fitzhugh seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Deininder, Fitzhugh,
Torrence and Smith.

NOES; Trustees: None. ABSENT; Trustees: None.

Regarding the street lights, as requested by Mr. MacDowell, Trustee Torrence reported that he had been in touch with the Edison Co. concerning same. The Co. was to report to him as to whether the wires were in shape for the installation of temporary lights, and that until he heard from them, he could give no definite answer as what could be done.

Mr. Jessup reported on the water question that he had gone out to the reservoir and pumping plant with representatives of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Co. and looked over the situation quite thoroughly, finding that out of 9 wells not one of them was less than 900 feet deep according to their logs, making it absolutely impossible for surface water to seep in and contaminate the water; that from 1 to 2 hundred inches of water a day was pumped into their cement-lined reservoir which should guarantee its freshness; that, with the exception of a certain amount of Algae, the water was perfectly good; that the only trouble with the system was that the reservoir was not covered; that the Co. has been treating the water with lime and the Algae, becoming detached, flows out through the pipes; that one well is very strongly impregnated with sulphur which gives the water a strong smell, perhaps, but does not detract from its good drinking qualities; that the water from the strong sulphur spring becomes oxidized very soon and is noticeable, according to the Superintendent, a mile or so from the plant; that there is no question but that that is where the trouble comes from--there being no injurious substances therein, no contamination and no standing water; that there is no easy way of curing the condition except to cover the reservoir which would be quite expensive, nor have they promised to cover it, nor can we expect them to do so--their expenses being high for new installations, new pumps and betterments of all kinds. Of course, if they had money to spend for that purpose, they would have had the reservoir in good condition a long while ago.

Mr. Greiner, chairman of the American Legion Memorial Day program, extended an invitation to President Smith to make a speech May 30th, which the President consented to do.

As to the usual roping off and police supervision in front of the Theatre, same was granted.

Trustee Fitzhugh moved that all bills, properly audited, be paid. Trustee Deininger seconded the motion which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES; Trustees: Brooks, Deininger, Fitzhugh,
Torrence and Smith.

NOES; Trustees: None.

ABSENT; Trustees: None.

At 8:15 P.M., the meeting was declared adjourned.

A. H. B. Smith
City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Approved:

R. R. Smith
President of the Board of Trustees
of the City of Torrance.